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1 BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION | 12: 34 2 MARC SPITZER, AZ CORP COMMISSION DOCUMENT CONTROL Chairman 3 WILLIAM MUNDELL, 4 Commissioner 5 JIM IRVIN, Arizona Corporation Commission Commissioner 6 DOCKETED 7 JEFF HATCH-MILLER. Commissioner JAN 1 6 2003 8 MIKE GLEASON, DOCKETED BY 9 Commissioner 10 In the Matter of the Joint Application of Citizens Communications Company and 11 **Docket Nos:** Unisource Energy Corporation for the Approval of the Sale of Certain Electric E-01933A-02-0914 12 E-01032C-02-0914 Utility and Gas Utility Assets in Arizona, the) G-01032A-02-0914 13 Transfer of Certain Certificates of Convenience and Necessity from Citizens 14 Communications Company to UniSource JOINT APPLICANTS' Energy Corporation, the Approval of the Financing for the Transactions and Other PROPOSED SCHEDULE 15 Related Matters. 16 17 18 UniSource Energy Corporation, on behalf of itself, Tucson Electric Power 19 Company ("TEP") and UniSource's designated affiliates (collectively "UniSource"), and 20 Citizens Communications Company ("Citizens") respectfully submit this proposed 21 22 procedural schedule for consideration by the Administrative Law Judge at the January 17, 23 2003 Procedural Hearing. As set forth in the Joint Applicants' transfer application, the 24 purchase price for this transaction is reduced by \$10 million if the asset purchase 25

transaction closes by July 28, 2003. UniSource will share these savings with its



customers. For the transaction to close, the currently pending Citizens' PPFAC case (Docket No. E-01032C-00-0751) and Gas Rate case (Docket No. G-01032A-02-0598) also must be resolved. Since a settlement is the most efficient and effective way to process these cases, Joint Applicants propose the following schedule for the transfer, PPFAC and Gas Rate cases:

January 31, 2003 – Joint Applicants file proposed settlement agreement;

April 1, 2003 – A final settlement agreement will be filed along with all intervenor testimony and comments and the Staff Report;

April 15, 2003 – Evidentiary hearing on the settlement agreement;

May 1, 2003 – Simultaneous closing briefs due;

June 2, 2003 – Recommended Order and Opinion released by the Hearing Division;

June 16, 2003 – Special Open Meeting.

In considering this proposed schedule, Joint Applicants ask the Administrative Law Judge to consider the following:

- The proposed testimony filing date is not much different than the Gas Rate case procedural schedule in which Staff and intervenors' direct testimony was due on April 14, 2003.
- 2. The PPFAC case was scheduled for hearing on December 9, 2002, and has been in process for over two years.



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- 3. The Joint Applicants' testimony filed on December 18, 2002, contains some, but not extensive, modifications to the previously filed Citizens' PPFAC and Gas Rate testimony.
- 4. Joint Applicants commit to meeting discovery deadlines and minimizing discovery disputes.
- 5. In addition to formal discovery, Joint Applicants will meet with any of the parties to provide information and analysis to help parties evaluate the proposed settlement.
- 6. Formal settlement discussions were commenced on January 13, 2003, and a follow-up meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2003.
- 7. The proposed schedule allows UniSource and its customers to share in a \$10 million savings.

Joint Applicants respectfully submit that it is in the best interest of the State for the parties to make a good faith attempt to meet the proposed schedule outlined above and respectfully request that this schedule be adopted at the January 17, 2003 Procedural Hearing.

Respectfully submitted this 16th day of January, 2003.

LEWIS AND ROCA LLP

By

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Attorneys for Joint Applicants



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LAWYERS ORIGINAL AND thirteen (13) copies 1 of the foregoing hand-delivered this 16th day of January, 2003, to: 2 Arizona Corporation Commission 3 Utilities Division – Docket C+ontrol 1200 W. Washington Street 4 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 5 COPY of the foregoing hand-delivered this 16th day of January, 2003, 6 7 Ernest Johnson, Director **Utilities Division** Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 W. Washington Street 9 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 10 Lyn Farmer, Chief Administrative Law Judge Hearing Division 11 Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 W. Washington Street 12 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 13 Christopher Kempley, Chief Counsel Legal Division 14 Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 W. Washington Street 15 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 16 Dwight D. Nodes Assistant Chief Administrative Law Judge 17 **Arizona Corporation Commission** 1200 W. Washington Street 18 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 19 Scott Wakefield Daniel W. Pozefsky 20 **RUCO Suite 1200** 21 2828 N. Central Avenue Phoenix, Arizona 85004 22 23 24



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